

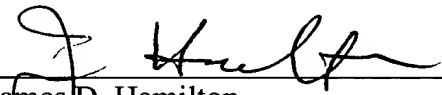
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Responsive to the restriction requirement of September 29, 2003, Applicant hereby elect for further prosecution in the present application invention I directed to Claims 1-32, 36-77 and 81-83 drawn to a method and apparatus for performing an optical assay, with traverse. The restriction requirement is traverse insofar as it is not believed that the Examiner has fully substantiated that the inventions are distinct.

A response having been filed, an early and favorable office action is believed to be in order and the same is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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